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County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell California State Assembly State Capitol Building, Room 2196 Sacramento, CA 94249-0070

Re: AB 1077 - As Introduced February 16, 2017 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman O'Donnell:

San Bernardino County is pleased to support AB 1077, which would eliminate the sunset date for the current Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation grant program.

Under existing law, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003 (act) provides for the acquisition, operation, and funding of state off-highway vehicular recreation areas and trails, establishes the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission and the Division of Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation within the Department of Motor Vehicles, and provides a grant program for, among other things, acquisition, administration, maintenance, and operation of areas and facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles. These provisions are to be repealed on January 1, 2018. This bill would extend the operation of the act indefinitely.

San Bernardino County is the largest county geographically in the lower 48 and includes a huge portion of the Mojave Desert, as well as expansive areas of the San Bernardino and Angeles national forests, all popular areas for OHV recreation. OHV recreation is a major activity in our County, with an estimated \$70 million economic impact. Our Sheriff's Department has received significant funding from the program for OHV education and enforcement.

The OHV grant program, derived from fees paid by the OHV community, has successfully supported multiple OHV programs. As OHV use expands, but riding areas are reduced due to urban growth and increasingly restrictive public land use designations, it is imperative to maintain a sustainable funding source to ensure safe and environmentally responsible OHV use.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1077. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 3874821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD First District Supervisor

Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Delegation